

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review met in Conference Room “C” in the William Powers Administration Building at One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI on Wednesday September 15, 2004. Chairman George Farrell called the meeting to order at 12:35.

Present were Commissioners George Farrell, J. Robert Wahlberg, Gordon Preiss, Dana Newbrook and Keith Burlingame. Also present was Thomas B. Coffey, Esq.

The following appeal was heard:

Appeal Number: R-040009: Mr. Ramzi Loqa, Scott Winkler and Ted Weathrill for the property located at 6 Benevolent Street, Providence, (Hope Club). Marshal George Calise appeared for the Providence Fire Marshal’s Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Newbrook and seconded by Commissioner Burlingame to grant the Applicant the requested relief. The motion was unanimous.

Under Old Business: Appeal Number: R-020001: Mr. Ramzi Loqa, Ranne Warner, Raynor Warner for the property located at 10 Exchange Court, Pawtucket. Chief Timothy McLaughlin and Marshal Jeffrey Johnson appeared for the Pawtucket Fire Marshal’s Office. Pawtucket Building Inspector Richard Belham also attended. A motion was made by Commissioner Newbrook and seconded by Commissioner Wahlberg to grant the Pawtucket Fire Marshal’s Office the authority to issue a temporary certificate of occupancy for 14

units. The Board granted a time variance of 120 days for the installation of fire dampers. The motion was unanimous. Chairman Farrell requested that the file be held open.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Desiree Campanini

Administrative Aide

A Subcommittee of the Rhode Island Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code Board met in Conference Room "C" in the William Powers Administration Building at One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI on Wednesday, September 15, 2004. Chairman George Farrell called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. At that time Chairman Farrell turned the floor over to Vice Chairman Robert Wahlberg and then recused himself from the meeting.

Present were Commissioners George Farrell, Gordon Preiss, Keith Burlingame and Stephen Turner, State Building Commissioner Daniel DeDentro, James Carlson, Cranston Fire Marshal Timothy Hawthorne, and Thomas Coffey, Esq., Executive Secretary of the Rehabilitation Board.

To open the meeting Acting Chairman Wahlberg suggested that the

members of the Board divide up into small teams with diverse backgrounds, for example one person from the Fire Board and one from the Building code. Each team will be responsible for creating a list of recommendations on a particular subject for the subcommittee to review. Acting Chairman Wahlberg then opened the floor to members of the subcommittee for their opinions.

Commissioner Burlingame stated he believed that the fire officials will identify a totally different set of issue and priorities than the building code officials, for example sprinkler issues.

Commissioner Turner agreed with Acting Chairman Wahlberg that breaking down into teams may help in the elimination of conflict and the creation of a clearer path in what needs to be done by the committee. He further stated that we need a realistic time frame to complete the project. He also noted the Rehabilitation Code needs to be rewritten.

Commissioner Carlson agrees that the Rehabilitation Code needs to be rewritten and made note that Codes would have to be rewritten every three (3) years. He submitted a draft letter to the subcommittee that reviews some key issues he believes should be addressed. He also stated that it would be impossible to find all of the conflicts. Commissioner Carlson stands firm with national standards and would not be in favor of getting away from national standards.

Commissioner Preiss noted he is a professor by profession. Working in small groups may provide the members of the committee a chance to cover more information. He went on to mention that the groups may want to come up with a reasonable list of conflicts, and then come back to the table for discussion. He would also like to see “user friendly” system of guidelines created to show what information, forms and code books will be needed when working on project the State of RI.

Commissioner DeDentro stated that the international code and the NFPA Codes are good codes. He also feels when dealing with code diversities the “most stringent “ way is not always best way to handle the situation.

Cranston Fire Marshal Timothy Hawthorne noted he is only an observer of the subcommittee, but he would like to see national standards prevail. Marshal Hawthorne further agrees with Acting Chairman Wahlberg that breaking down into diversified teams would provide a good objective on the issues.

In closing the meeting, Acting Chairman Wahlberg addressed the members of the subcommittee, with a two(2) part question to be answered in two (2) sentences.

- 1) What needs to be done?**
- 2) How to get it done?**

The meeting adjourned at 4:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Desiree Campanini

Adimistrative Aide